[Mr. H. B. Mahomed Rowther.]

(*b*) if not, whether there is any rule prohibiting their appointment to such posts?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative.

Budget allotments for construction of new roads and bridges in the Shencotta and Pattanapuram taluks.

45. **MR. H. B. MAHOMED ROWTHER** (*Pattanapuram cum Shencotta*): Will the Government be pleased to state what amounts, if any, have been set apart in the Budget for the next year (1106) for the construction of new roads and bridges in the Shencotta and Pattanapuram taluks?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): A sum of Rs. 17,200, of which approximately Rs. 12,200 is for the Pattanapuram taluk and Rs. 5,000 for the Shencotta taluk, has been provided for the construction of new roads and bridges in the taluks, besides the provision of Rs. 32,250 for improvements to the existing means of communication.

Nilakkamukku-Koviltottam road.

46. **MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*): With reference to the answer given to question No. 98, asked at the meeting of the Council held on the 25th November 1926 (page 288 of Vol. X of the Council Proceedings) regarding the Nilakkamukku-Koviltottam road, will the Government be pleased to state the result of the enquiry, if any, made by them?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The Chief Engineer reported that Nilakkamukku and Koviltottam are situated by the side of the *kayals* of Anjengo and Koviltottam and are connected by a navigable canal and also by a railway close by and that a road in that locality would be a superfluity. The Government have therefore dropped the matter.

As regards the construction of a bridge at Kayikkara crossing, the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner reported that a bridge would be an expensive luxury especially because there is already a ferry service at the place. The Government accepted this view.

Condition of roads in the Paravur pakuti, Quilon taluk.

47. **MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*): With reference to the answer to question No. 27, asked at the meeting of the Council held on the 1st August 1927 (page 52 of Vol. XI of the Council Proceedings) regarding the unsatisfactory condition of the road leading from the Paravur market to Pallikadavu and of the road from Maniankulam bridge to the boat jetty, will the Government be pleased to state the further action taken by them after giving the reply?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The maintenance grant of the road from Paravur market to Pallikadavu has

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been increased to keep it in fair condition. The Government have also received an estimate from the Chief Engineer for improving the road from Maniankulam bridge to the boat jetty.

Increase of pay to Police Constables.

48. **MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*): With reference to the answer to question No. 33, asked at the meeting of the Council held on the 1st August 1927 (page 55 of Vol. XI of the Council Proceedings) regarding the question of raising the pay of the Police Constables to the level of that which is now being drawn by their brethren in Cochin or in the Madras Presidency, will the Government be pleased to state in what stage the matter is?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Provision for bettering the pay of the Police Constables in the State has been made in the Budget for 1106.

Bridge across the Alwaye ferry.

49. **MR. A. G. MENON** (*Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) what action they have taken in connection with the bridging of the southern branch of the Periyar at the Alwaye-Parur ferry; and

(*b*) whether the bridge is likely to be constructed in the near future in view of the repeated assurances from the Government that the question is under their consideration?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The question is engaging the attention of the Government.

(*b*) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*) above.

MR. A. G. MENON (*Parur*): May I know whether any active steps have been taken; any report has been called for or any officer of the P. W. D. has been asked to send up an estimate in regard to the construction of the bridge?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): It is under the consideration of the Government.

MR. A. G. MENON (*Parur*): Have they called for any report from the P. W. Department?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): No.

MR. A. G. MENON (*Parur*): Then, Sir, I can only say that this is the third time this answer is given.

Bridge across the Alwaye-Parur ferry.

50. **MR. A. G. MENON** (*Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state with reference to the replies given on two occasions in this Council *re* the construction of a bridge across the southern branch of the Periyar at the Alwaye-Parur ferry, what steps they have taken for the speedy construction of the said bridge?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to the answer to part (*a*) of his question No. 49 on the subject.

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